

Records of the U.S. House of Representatives
RG.233.76.House
76th Congress

**Finding aid prepared by Office of Art and Archives,
Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

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| Repository | Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration |
| Title | House Records of the 76th Congress |
| Date [inclusive] | 1939-1941 |
| Extent | 436.08 Cubic feet |
| Language | English |

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

Conditions Governing Access note

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules:

(b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

Records of Legislative Proceedings

Collection Inventory

Records of Legislative Proceedings 1939-1941

Minute Books and Journals 1939-1941 5.0 Cubic feet (16 volumes)

Scope and Contents note

The minute books and journals series includes a minute book, 1st session (76A-A1); legislative journal, 1st session (76A-A2); minute book, 2d and 3d sessions (76A-A3); and legislative journal, 2d session (76A-A4) and 3d session (76A-A5).

Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include fifty-eight volumes of original House bills (76A-B1); one volume of original House joint resolutions (76A-B2); original House concurrent resolutions (76A-B3); House simple resolutions (76A-B4); House Resolution 473, correcting the "Congressional Record" of April 25, 1940, which was withdrawn (76A-B5); House motions and orders (76A-B6); desk copies of House bills passed (76A-B7); desk copies of House joint resolutions passed (76A-B8); desk copies of House concurrent resolutions agreed to (76A-B9); desk copies of House simple resolutions agreed to (76A-B10); engrossed House bills (76A-B11); engrossed House joint resolutions (76A-B12); engrossed House concurrent resolutions (76A-B13); desk copies of House bills tabled (76A-B14); desk copies of House joint resolutions tabled (76A-B15); desk copies of House concurrent resolutions tabled (76A-B16); desk copies of House simple resolutions tabled (76A-B17); desk copy of a House bill indefinitely postponed (76A-B18); desk copies of House bills that failed to pass (76A-B19); and desk copies of House simple resolutions that were not agreed to (76A-B20).

Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1939-1941 1.0 Cubic feet**Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills passed (76A-C1); Senate joint resolutions passed (76A-C2); Senate concurrent resolutions (76A-C3); engrossed Senate bills (76A-C4); engrossed Senate joint resolutions (76A-C5); engrossed Senate concurrent resolutions (76A-C6); Senate simple resolutions and announcements communicated to the House (76A-C7); and notifications of Senate agreement to House amendments or to conference committee reports on Senate bills and resolutions. (76A-C8).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Papers Accompanying Specific Bills and Resolutions 1939-1941 130.0 Cubic feet**Scope and Contents note**

The papers accompanying specific bills and resolutions include the following committees: Committee on Accounts (76A-D1); Committee on Agriculture (76A-D2); Committee on Banking and Currency (76A-D3); Committee on the Census (76A-D4); Committee on the Civil Service (76A-D5); Committee on Claims (76A-D6); Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures (76A-D7); Committee on Disposition of Executive Papers (76A-D8); Committee on the District of Columbia (76A-D9); Committee on Education (76A-D10); Committee on Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress (76A-D11); Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments (76A-D12); Committee on Flood Control (76A-D13); Committee on Foreign Affairs (76A-D14); Committee on Immigration and Naturalization (76A-D15); Committee on Indian Affairs (76A-D16);

Committee Reports

Committee on Insular Affairs (76A–D17); Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (76A–D18); Committee on Invalid Pensions (76A–D19); Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation (76A–D20); Committee on the Judiciary (76A–D21); Committee on Labor (76A–D22); Committee on the Library (76A–D23); Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries (76A–D24); Committee on Military Affairs (76A–D25); Committee on Mines and Mining (76A–D26); Committee on Naval Affairs (76A–D27); Committee on Patents (76A–D28); Committee on Pensions (76A–D29); Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads (76A–D30); Committee on Printing (76A–D31); Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds (76A–D32); Committee on Public Lands (76A–D33); Committee on Rivers and Harbors (76A–D34); Committee on Roads (76A–D35); Committee on Rules (76A–D36); Committee on the Territories (76A–D37); Committee on War Claims (76A–D38); Committee on Ways and Means (76A–D39); and Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation (76A–D40).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically by bill or resolution within each committee, except 76A–D6, 76A–D19, 76A–D25, 76A–D29, and 76A–D38, in which private bills are arranged alphabetically by person or subject.

Committee Reports 1939-1941 18.0 Cubic feet (81 volumes)

Scope and Contents note

Original committee reports are from the 1st session (76A–E1); 2d session (76A–E2); and 3d session (76A–E3).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Committees 1939-1941

Committee on Agriculture 1939-1941

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Agriculture was created on May 3, 1820, to provide a forum for the interests of the large agricultural population of the country. The committee's jurisdiction includes adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and protection of birds and animals in forest reserves; agriculture generally; agricultural and industrial chemistry; agricultural colleges and experiment stations; agricultural economics and research; agricultural education extension services; agricultural production and marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities (not including distribution outside of the United States); animal industry and diseases of animals; commodity exchanges; crop insurance and soil conservation; dairy industry; entomology and plant quarantine; extension of farm credit and farm security; inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products; and forestry in general and forest reserves other than those created from the public domain. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Agriculture include executive communications (76A–F1.1), arranged numerically; hearings (76A–F1.2); and various subjects (76A–F1.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture document cooperatives (76A–H1.1); cost-of-production

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bill (76A–H1.2); farm bill (76A–H1.3); farm credit reorganization (76A–H1.4); forestry (76A–H1.5); interest rates (76A–H1.6); loans (76A–H1.7); processing tax (76A–H1.8); sugar (76A–H1.9); and wildlife (76A–H1.10).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Appropriations 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Appropriations was created in 1865. The Constitution of the United States specifies that "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills." The earliest appropriations bills were written by select committees on instruction from the Committee of the Whole House, and later ones by the standing Committee on Ways and Means. Increased demands for revenue and appropriations as a result of the Civil War combined to produce a tremendous workload for the Ways and Means Committee. Today, the committee is tasked with the appropriation of revenue for the support of the Government; rescissions of appropriations contained in appropriation Acts; transfers of unexpended balances; and bills and joint resolutions reported by other committees that provide new entitlement authority as defined in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations include correspondence (76A–F2.1) and investigation of the Works Progress Administration (76A–F2.2). A preliminary inventory, as yet unpublished, describes the records of this investigation by the Subcommittee on the Works Progress Administration.

Arrangement note

Committees

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations document agricultural appropriation bill (76A-H2.1); civil service (76A-H2.2); Dutch elm disease (76A-H2.3); Federal arts projects (76A-H2.4); Federal Emergency Relief Act (76A-H2.5); Federal music projects (76A-H2.6); Federal theater projects (76A-H2.7); House Committee on Un-American Activities (76A-H2.8); independent offices appropriation bill (76A-H2.9); Interior Department appropriation bill (76A-H2.10); La Follette Civil Liberties Committee (76A-H2.11); National Labor Relations Act and the National Labor Relations Board (76A-H2.12); National Youth Administration (76A-H2.13); neutrality and national defense legislation (76A-H2.14); Venereal Disease Control Act (76A-H2.15); and Works Progress Administration (76A-H2.16).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Banking and Currency 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Banking and Currency Committee was created in 1865 to relieve the Ways and Means Committee of part of its workload. Its jurisdiction included the chartering and oversight of national banks; the issue of national bank loans; the issue, taxation, and redemption of national bank notes; and the authorization of bond issues. It was responsible for legislation involving the deposit of public moneys, strengthening the public credit, monetary parity, and the issuance of silver

Committees

certificates as currency. The investigation of the failure of state banks and the affairs of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company were also part of its jurisdiction.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency document various subjects (76A-F3.1). There is also a docket volume, 76th Congress, 1st session, to 77th Congress, 2d session (76A-F3.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency document the constitutional money system (76A-H3.1); credit unions (76A-H3.2); Federal land banks (76A-H3.3); Federal Reserve System (76A-H3.4); Home Owners' Loan Corporation (76A-H3.5); Housing Act of 1938 (76A-H3.6); Housing Act of 1940 (76A-H3.7); insurance of bank loans to business (76A-H3.8); Monetary Control Act (76A-H3.9); Works Progress Administration (76A-H3.10); and various subjects (76A-H3.11).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committees

Committee on the Census 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The standing Committee on the Census was created in 1901 after having been a select committee for many years. The standing committee was established in anticipation of the creation of a permanent census office in 1902. Its jurisdiction included all proposed legislation concerning the census and the apportionment of Representatives. The standing committee, and the select committees before it, reported bills providing for the collection of statistics concerning birth and deaths, marriage and divorce, farm mortgages, irrigation, and other subjects. It also reported legislation providing for the collection and publication of general statistics including those of the production of certain commodities such as cotton and grain. In 1946 the committee was abolished and its jurisdiction included in that of the new Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Census include a volume of minutes (76A–F4.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Census document the elimination of questions from the census questionnaire violating the right of privacy (76A–H4.1).

Committees

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Civil Service 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on the Civil Service, which had previously been the Committee on Reform in the Civil Service, was established in 1924. The committee had jurisdiction over matters relating to the Civil Service Commission, the Bureau of Efficiency, and alleged violations of civil service law, and it reported legislation relating to the repeal of the tenure of office act. The committee kept its name and jurisdiction until 1946, when the committee was merged into the Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Civil Service document various subjects (76A-F5.1). There is also a volume of minutes (76A-F5.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Civil Service document the extension of the Federal classified

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civil service (76A–H5.1); hearing and settlement of employee grievances (76A–H5.2); retirement of employees in the classified civil service (76A–H5.3); and various subjects (76A–H5.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

In 1864 the Committee on a Uniform System of Coinage, Weights, and Measures was established, and in 1867, the name was shortened to the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures. Its jurisdiction included the subjects listed in its name: coinage, weights, and measures. The coinage part of the jurisdiction referred to defining and fixing of standards of value and the regulation of coinage and exchange, including the coinage of silver and the purchase of bullion, the exchange of gold coins for gold bars, the subject of mutilated coins, and the coinage of souvenir and commemorative coins. The committee's jurisdiction also encompassed legislation related to mints and assay offices and the establishment of legal standards of value in the insular possessions. The weights and measures part of the jurisdiction included legislation to establish a national standardization bureau and the standardization of various weights, measures, packing, and grading techniques used in interstate commerce. The part of the jurisdiction of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures relating to stabilization of the currency was transferred to the Banking and Currency Committee in 1921. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the coinage part of its jurisdiction was transferred to the Committee on Banking and Currency and the weights and measures jurisdiction was transferred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures include a docket volume (76A–F6.1). There is also a volume of minutes, 75th Congress, 1st session, to 76th Congress, 1st session (75A–F7.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures document coinage of fractional minor coins (76A–H6.1); purchase of silver by the Federal Government (76A–H6.2); and various subjects (76A–H6.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Disposition of Executive Papers 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on the Disposition of Executive Papers was established on February 16, 1889, by "An Act to authorize and provide for the disposition of useless papers in the Executive Departments." The act provided that whenever an executive department accumulated files of papers that were not needed for the transaction of current business and possessed no permanent value or historical interest, the head of the agency would submit a report to Congress with a concise statement of the character and condition of such papers. The presiding officer of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives would, upon receipt of the report, each appoint two

Committees

Members to sit on a joint committee to meet and examine the reports and papers, and report on them. If the report of the joint committee agreed that the papers were useless, the head of the department would be ordered to sell them as wastepaper or otherwise dispose of them. As the disposition process became institutionalized a Select Committee on the Disposition of (Useless) Executive Papers was regularly appointed at the beginning of each Congress. In 1911 it was recognized as a standing committee in the revised Rules of the House.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Disposition of Executive Papers document various subjects (76A–F7.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on the District of Columbia 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on the District of Columbia was established on January 27, 1808. The committee's duty was to consider all petitions and memorials relating to the affairs of the District of Columbia referred to them by the House. Jurisdiction consisted of various municipal concerns of the District of Columbia including those involving streets, schools and teachers, railroads, police and fire departments, claims against the District Government, insurance, taxes, health and safety, liquor sales, incorporation of organizations and societies, and other matters that were the normal concerns of city and State governments. Since its creation the committee has shared jurisdiction on District concerns with other committees, and in particular with the Committees on Education and Labor, Interior, Banking and Currency, Judiciary, and Public Works. The committee was known as the Committee on the District of Columbia from 1801-1995. The committee was split and absorbed by

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subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations and by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia include executive communications (76A–F8.1), arranged numerically; hearings on the administration and operation of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act (76A–F8.2); hearings on the milk industry (76A–F8.3); and various subjects (76A–F8.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia document the return of prohibition to the District of Columbia (76A–H7.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Education 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

When the Committee on Education and Labor was separated into two committees in 1883, the jurisdiction of the new Committee on Education included all legislation and documents relating to the subject of education. This included proposed legislation providing aid from the Federal Government to common schools, aid to the education of deprived or handicapped persons, the establishment of colleges for the benefit of agricultural and mechanical education, and efforts to deal with illiteracy at the national level. The committee functioned until 1946 when it was reunited with the Committee on Labor under the Legislative Reorganization Act to form the new Committee on Education and Labor.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Education include correspondence relating to Federal aid to education (76A–F9.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; and various subjects (76A–F9.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Education document Federal aid to education (76A–H8.1); National Labor Relations Act (76A–H8.2); and various subjects (76A–H8.3).

Arrangement note

Committees

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The standing Committee on the Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress was established in 1893 with jurisdiction over legislation concerning the election of the officials enumerated in its title, including proposed changes to the Constitution that affected the terms of office of the named officials, the succession to the offices of the President and Vice President, the direct election of Senators, and the meeting times of Congress. The committee considered national election laws and their enforcement, including such topics as the disqualification of polygamists from election to Congress, the use of electric voting machines in congressional elections, the necessary and proper expenses related to nominations and elections, and the publication of campaign expenses. It was responsible for changes in the law regarding the electoral count and resolutions regulating the actual electoral vote count by the Senate and House of Representatives. Before the establishment of the standing committee election issues were dealt with by select committees appointed to handle particular situations or legislation.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress include various subjects (76A–F10.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Elections No. 1 1939-1941

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 1 include the contested election case of John R. Neal v. Estes Kefauver, Tennessee (76A-F11.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Controlled Access Headings**Personal Name(s)**

- Kefauver, Carey Estes, 1903-1963

Committee on Elections No. 2 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 2 include the contested election case of Byron N. Scott v. Thomas M. Eaton, California (76A-F12.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Eaton, Thomas Marion, 1896-1939
- Scott, Byron Nicholson, 1903-1991

Committee on Elections No. 3 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats

Committees

rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 3 includes the contested election cases of Emory F. Smith v. James G. Polk, Ohio (76A-F13.1), and Albert F. Swanson v. Vincent F. Harrington, Iowa (76A-F13.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Harrington, Vincent Francis, 1903-1943
- Polk, James Gould, 1896-1959

Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

The Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Department was created on December 5, 1927, to replace the 11 expenditures committees that were terminated at that time. Much of the work of the committee was accomplished by its subcommittees.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments include correspondence (76A–F15.1); executive communications (76A–F15.2), arranged alphabetically by agency; and various subjects (76A–F15.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Flood Control 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Flood Control was authorized February 3, 1916, early in the 64th Congress, and was given jurisdiction over subjects relating to flood control. In the previous two Congresses such flood control matters had been entirely under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors and some flood control issues had been in the jurisdiction of the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River before that committee was abolished in 1911. The Committee on Flood Control was terminated early in the 80th Congress on January 3, 1947. Its successor was the Committee on Public Works.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Flood Control include various subjects (76A–F16.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Foreign Affairs 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Foreign Affairs gained status as a standing committee of the House of Representatives in 1822, however, its antecedents date as far back as 1775 when the Continental Congress established a committee to correspond with friends abroad. The jurisdiction of the committee includes relations of the United States with foreign nations generally; acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries; establishment of boundary lines between the United States and foreign nations; export controls, including nonproliferation of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; foreign loans; international commodity agreements (other than those involving sugar), including all agreements for cooperation in the export of nuclear technology and nuclear hardware; international conferences and congresses; international education; intervention abroad and declarations of war; diplomatic service; measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad; international economic policy; neutrality; protection of American citizens abroad and expatriation; the American National Red Cross; trading with the enemy; and United Nations organizations. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of State.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Foreign Affairs include correspondence (76A–F17.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; Foreign Service Buildings Commission (76A–F17.2); neutrality legislation (76A–F17.3); and various subjects (76A–F17.4).

Committees

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Immigration and Naturalization 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The standing Committee on Immigration and Naturalization was created in the House after having been a select committee for four years. Congress did little before 1860 to regulate immigration, which had traditionally been controlled by the colonies and then the states. After the Civil War, when the issues of States rights had been clarified and the need for a uniform immigration and naturalization system had become more apparent, the federal government began to build a system to regulate these areas. The jurisdiction included regulatory measures to restrict immigration, such as literacy tests, head taxes, racial and country-of-origin quotas, money-in-pocket tests, and professional and skills criteria. The committee reported legislation restricting immigration of certain classes of persons--such as Chinese, Japanese, contract laborers, anarchists, dependents, mental defectives, illiterates, paupers, and criminals--and naturalization legislation affecting classes of persons such as aliens who had served in the military during wartime, women married to U.S. citizens, and persons of particular nationalities. The complex regulatory system that was thus constructed was the source of a large number of requests for private legislation designed to provide relief for persons who begged personal exemption from the broad categories defined in the legislation.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization include various subjects (76A-F18.1); and unbound minutes (76A-F18.2).

Arrangement note

Committees

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization include the Alien Registration Act of 1940 (76A–H9.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Indian Affairs 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Indian Affairs was established on December 17, 1821, with jurisdiction over subjects pertaining to Native Americans. Select committees to consider matters of Native Americans existed for several years before the creation of the standing committee. Among the matters referred to the committee were subjects relating to the care, education, and management of Native Americans and of their lands; the adjudication and payment of Indian depredation claims; bonds and stocks that had been part of Indian trust funds; adjudication of claims of Indians against the United States; the use and management of Native American funds; and the business and government of the Native American tribes. From 1885 until 1920, the committee exercised jurisdiction over appropriations relating to Native Americans. The Committee on Indian Affairs was abolished under the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946. Its jurisdiction and responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs include executive communications (76A–F19.1), arranged alphabetically by agency. There is also a volume of minutes (76A–F19.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs document various subjects (76A–H10.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Insular Affairs 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

On December 8, 1899, the House established the Committee on Insular Affairs to consider "all matters (excepting those affecting the revenue and appropriations) pertaining to the islands which came to the United States through the treaty of 1899 with Spain, and to Cuba." The Committee on Insular Affairs reported legislation concerning civil governments for each of the insular possessions. The committee also reported legislation concerning the clarification of citizenship status of inhabitants of the islands, ratification and confirmation of actions of the Philippine and Puerto Rican legislatures, matters relating to public works, harbor improvements, wharves, roads, railways, telephone and telegraph cables, electricity, trade and tariff laws, prohibition, education, taxes, bond issues, and relief from hurricanes and the depression. The committee also issued reports on the

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social, economic, and political conditions in the insular possessions. The committee was merged with other committees in 1946 under the Legislative Reorganization Act.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Insular Affairs document the Philippine Islands (76A–F20.1); Puerto Rico (76A–F20.2); and the Virgin Islands (76A–F20.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Insular Affairs document the Philippine Islands (76A–H11.1); and Puerto Rico (76A–H11.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce came into existence in 1892 when the name of the Committee on Commerce was changed. During most of the 19th century, there had been some

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inconsistency in the referral of certain customs-related matters. After 1895, however, the jurisdiction over customs districts, ports of entry and delivery, the transportation of dutiable goods, and officers and employees in the customs service passed to the Committee on Ways and Means. Similarly, for many years after the establishment of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee in December 1887, the division of jurisdiction over various matters relating to water transportation between the new committee and the Committee on Commerce (later, the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee) was inconsistently applied, but progressively more of these issues were referred to the Merchant Marine Committee. After passage of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the House rules defined the jurisdiction of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee as follows: Interstate and foreign commerce generally; regulation of interstate and foreign transportation, except transportation by water not subject to the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission; regulation of interstate and foreign communications; civil aeronautics; weather bureau; interstate oil compacts; petroleum and natural gas, except on the public lands; securities and exchanges; regulation of interstate transmission of power, except the installation of connections between Government water power projects; railroad labor and railroad retirement and unemployment, except revenue measures relating thereto; public health and quarantine; inland waterways; the Bureau of Standards and the standardization of weights and measures and the metric system.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce include executive communications (76A–F21.1), arranged alphabetically by agency. There are also two docket volumes (76A–F21.2); and a volume of minutes (76A–F21.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce document advertising of alcoholic beverages over the radio (76A–H12.1); aeronautics (76A–H12.2); chain-store tax (76A–H12.3); food, drugs, and cosmetics (76A–H12.4); freight rates (76A–H12.5); motion-picture legislation (76A–H12.6); oil control (76A–H12.7); railway employees' mileage and workweek (76A–H12.8); St. Lawrence Waterway (76A–H12.9); Transportation Act (76A–H12.10); wool labeling (76A–H12.11); and various subjects (76A–H12.12).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Invalid Pensions 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Invalid Pensions was created on January 10, 1831, with jurisdiction over matters relating to pensions for disabled veterans. Originally, the jurisdiction of the committee included pensions from the War of 1812. The committee had become so overburdened with pensions from the Civil War, that on March 26, 1867, jurisdiction for pensions from the War of 1812 was transferred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. Subsequently, jurisdiction of the Committee on Invalid Pensions included only matters relating to pensions of the Civil War, with the committee reporting general and special bills authorizing payments of pensions and bills for relief of soldiers of that war.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include correspondence (76A–F22.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; various subjects (76A–F22.2); and unbound minutes (76A–F22.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation, which had previously been the Committee on the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands, was created in 1924. The committee exercised jurisdiction over irrigation projects generally, including the preemption and disposition of lands on reclaimed and irrigated projects; authorization of interstate compacts and agreements regarding irrigation projects; disposal of drainage waters from irrigation projects, and subjects pertaining to the reclamation of lands. In 1946, the committee was abolished and its duties were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation document various subjects (76A–F23.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on the Judiciary 1939-1941

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

The standing Committee on the Judiciary was established on June 3, 1813, to take into consideration matters touching judicial proceedings. In 1880 the rule defining its jurisdiction was revised to read "judicial proceedings, civil and criminal law," and this remained the formal definition of the jurisdiction of the committee until the reorganization of Congress in 1946. The committee's jurisdiction includes judiciary and judicial proceedings, civil and criminal; administrative practice and procedure; apportionment of Representatives; bankruptcy, mutiny, espionage, and counterfeiting; civil liberties; constitutional amendments; criminal law enforcement; Federal courts and judges, and local courts in the Territories and possessions; immigration policy and nonborder enforcement; interstate compacts generally; claims against the United States; meetings of Congress; attendance of Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner; and their acceptance of incompatible offices; National penitentiaries; patents, the Patent and Trademark Office, copyrights, and trademarks; Presidential succession; protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies; revision and codification of the Statutes of the United States; state and territorial boundary lines; and subversive activities affecting the internal security of the United States. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary include correspondence (76A-F24.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; executive communications (76A-F24.2), arranged alphabetically by agency; and various subjects (76A-F24.3). There is also a volume of minutes (76A-F24.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committees

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary include an advertisement of alcoholic beverages by press and radio (76A-H13.1); aliens (76A-H13.2); antilynching legislation (76A-H13.3); antitrust laws (76A-H13.4); district judges (76A-H13.5); equal-rights amendment to the Constitution (76A-H13.6); Federal Bureau of Investigation (76A-H13.7); Government contracts (76A-H13.8); Hatch Act (76A-H13.9); Monopoly Investigating Committee (76A-H13.10); National Labor Relations Board (76A-H13.11); poll tax (76A-H13.12); settlement of disputes with the Federal Government (76A-H13.13); subversives and subversive organizations (76A-H13.14); third term for the President (76A-H13.15); tidelands and submerged lands (76A-H13.16); U.S. Code (76A-H13.17); universal fingerprinting (76A-H13.18); war referendum (76A-H13.19); and various subjects (76A-H13.20).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Labor 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Labor was created in 1883, when its jurisdiction was removed from the old Education and Labor Committee and two separate committees were created. Despite the establishment of a committee devoted entirely to labor issues, little significant labor legislation was passed before the depression of the 1930s. The committee's jurisdiction included the wages and hours of labor; the arbitration of labor difficulties; the use of convict labor, alien labor, contract labor, and military labor in competition with "honest labor"; and the conditions of laborers employed in Government service. The committee considered methods of directing the work of Federal employees, including the use of the Taylor System of shop management and problems relating to

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child and woman labor; it also investigated such labor-related subjects as conditions in city slums and conditions of blacks in America and of saleswomen in the District of Columbia.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Labor include executive communications (76A–F25.1), arranged alphabetically by agency; and various subjects (76A–F25.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Labor document the admission of German refugee children to the United States (76A–H14.1); Fair Labor Standards Act (76A–H14.2); National Labor Relations Act (76A–H14.3); U. S. Employment Service (76A–H14.4); and various subjects (76A–H14.5).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Library 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

The standing Committee on the Library (1806-1946) was composed of the House members of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress. Its jurisdiction included all legislation or matters touching on the Library of Congress; and statuary, pictures or works of art on the Capitol grounds. The records of the Joint Committee for recent Congresses have been in the custody of the Committee on House Administration.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Library include correspondence (76A-F26.1); executive communications (76A-F26.2), arranged alphabetically by agency; National Archives (76A-F26.3); various subjects (76A-F26.4); and unbound minutes (76A-F26.5).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Library document various subjects (76A-H15.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries 1939-1941

Committees

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries was established on December 21, 1887, to replace the Select Committee on American Shipbuilding and Shipowning Interests. The House Rules defined its jurisdiction as those matters concerning the merchant marine. This included all matters relating to transportation by water, the Coast Guard, life-saving service, lighthouses, lightships, ocean derelicts, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Panama Canal, and fisheries. Legislation referred to the committee also included matters involving seamen (their assignments, wages, treatment, and health) and officers (their titles, conduct, and licensing); the naming, measuring, licensing, and registering of vessels; navigation and related laws; pleasure yachts; collisions at sea, as well as international arrangements to prevent them; coasting districts; maritime schools; and, taxes, fines, and penalties on vessels. The committee has also regulated shipping in the Philippines and Hawaii. As did most committees of the House, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee created subcommittees to handle portions of its jurisdiction. In 1919 the committee was given jurisdiction over wireless telegraphy (radio), and in 1932 its name was changed to the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries. After a dispute with the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, the jurisdiction over radio services was transferred to that committee in 1935 and the term "radio" was dropped from the name of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries document various subjects (76A–F27.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Military Affairs 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

A succession of House select committees considered legislation on military affairs from 1811 until 1822, when the House established a standing Committee on Military Affairs. The jurisdiction of the committee included appropriation bills covering the military establishment, the public defense, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. The committee reported the military appropriation bills until 1920, when that power was transferred to the Appropriations Committee. Jurisdiction of the committee also included the establishment and care of national cemeteries and battlefields; acquisition and conveyance of lands for military reservations and improvements upon such grounds; disposition of war trophies and distribution of obsolete weapons and armament; conduct of joint operations of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; and promotion of military aviation and Army aeronautics. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 abolished the Committee on Military Affairs and transferred its jurisdiction to the newly-created Armed Services Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs include various subjects (76A–F28.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs document aid to the Allies (76A–H16.1); aviation and aviation facilities (76A–H16.2); compulsory military training (76A–H16.3); national defense (76A–H16.4); neutrality (76A–H16.5); Pacific coast defense (76A–H16.6); subversive forces and

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activities (76A–H16.7); tunnel project at San Pedro Harbor (76A–H16.8); and various subjects (76A–H16.9).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Mines and Mining 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Mines and Mining was created on December 19, 1865, for consideration of subjects relating to mining interests. It exercised jurisdiction over the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, the establishment of mining schools and mining experimental stations, mineral land laws, the welfare of men working in mines, mining debris, relief in cases of mineral contracts connected with the prosecution of war, the mining of radium ore, and the Government's fuel yards in the District of Columbia. In 1947, the committee was abolished and its duties were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Mines and Mining include various subjects (76A–F29.1); and unbound minutes (76A–F29.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Committees

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Mines and Mining include various subjects (76A–H17.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Naval Affairs 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

In 1822, the standing Committee on Naval Affairs was created. The jurisdiction of the committee included consideration of all matters which concerned the naval establishment, the increase or reduction of commissioned officers and enlisted men, and their pay and allowances and the increase of ships or vessels of all classes of the Navy. Other subjects under the committee's expanded jurisdiction pertained to naval and marine aeronautics; the construction of aircraft carriers for the Navy; the acquisition of sites for naval facilities; the establishment, construction, improvement, and maintenance of such facilities; the authorization of special decorations, orders, medals, and other insignia for naval personnel; the acceptance of offices and emoluments from foreign governments; claims of personnel and civilian employees of the Navy; and legislation relating to the Coast Guard, the Marine Corps, the Marine Band, the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, the Naval Observatory, and the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and its jurisdiction transferred to the Armed Services Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document various subjects (76A–F30.1).

Committees

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs document the construction of a drydock in New York Harbor (76A-H18.1); use of San Francisco Bay as the base and headquarters of the Pacific Fleet (76A-H18.2); U. S. S. "Constellation" (76A-H18.3); and various subjects (76A-H18.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Patents 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The standing Committee on Patents was established in 1837. Jurisdiction of the committee included patent, copyright, and trademark laws and revision of such laws; the jurisdiction of courts in patent cases; the counterfeiting of trademarks; and the Patent Office and its affairs. Private legislation, usually initiated in response to petition, was an important part of the work of the committee, especially between 1840 and 1890. Relief was sought by inventors for whom protection was not provided in the existing patent law (such as aliens and government employees) and by patentees who requested extensions on patents because they had not profited sufficiently during the period provided by the original patent. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the Judiciary Committee absorbed the jurisdiction of the Committee on Patents.

Committees

Committee Papers 1939-1941**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Patents include general correspondence (76A–F31.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; correspondence relating to special subjects (76A–F31.2); various subjects (76A–F31.3); and unbound minutes (76A–F31.4). There is also a docket volume, 74th Congress, 1st session, to 76th Congress, 3d session (74A–F28.6).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Pensions 1939-1941**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Pensions was created in 1880, replacing the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions with jurisdiction over subjects relating to the pensions of all the wars of the United States except the Civil War. On January 3, 1939 the jurisdiction of the committee was rewritten to include, the pensions of the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and Boxer Rebellion, while all other pension legislation was referred to the Committee on Invalid Pensions. The committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and its jurisdiction transferred, for the most part, to the executive agencies.

Committee Papers 1939-1941**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Pensions include correspondence (76A–F32.1); receipts for case files loaned to committee by the Veterans' Administration (76A–F32.2); various subjects (76A–F32.3); and unbound minutes (76A–F32.14).

Committees

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Pensions document various subjects (76A-H19.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

A Select Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads was established in 1806 and made a standing committee in 1808. The jurisdiction of the committee extended to all proposed legislation relating to the carrying of the mails, both foreign and domestic. It included the determination of the location, construction, and maintenance of post offices and post roads; the acquisition, lease, or transfer of realty or facilities for postal purposes; and certain aspects of the employment and management of postal employees, such as the pay and leave of letter carriers, and the settlement of claims brought by employees or contractors. Also included was the regulation of the Postal Service, including postal rates, the franking privilege, and the printing of stamped envelopes. At various times, the Railway Mail Service, ocean mail service, pneumatic tube service, postal savings banks, postal telegraphy, the Air Mail Service, and Rural Free Delivery were included in its jurisdiction. As part of its responsibility, the committee investigated the management of postal facilities, contracts for carrying the mail, and other subjects such as the forgery of postal money orders. In 1885 the jurisdiction of the committee was expanded to include appropriation authority and prepared Post

Committees

Office appropriations bills from that time until 1920 when the authority was revoked under a rule change. The committee functioned until 1946 when its jurisdiction was included in that of the new Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads includes various subjects (76A-F33.1). There is also a docket volume (76A-F33.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads include custodial employees of the Post Office Department (76A-H20.1); longevity pay for postal employees (76A-H20.2); substitute postal employees (76A-H20.3); and various subjects (76A-H20.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Printing 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

The Committee on Printing was established in 1846 and its jurisdiction included all proposed legislation or orders involving printing. In practice this included the general supervision of the printing, management, and policies of the Government Printing Office (GPO). Jurisdiction also occasionally included the pay of its employees; the letting of contracts; procurement of suitable paper; control of the arrangement, style, bulk, and indexing of the "Congressional Record"; and supervision of the printing of the "Congressional Directory." The committee reported bills and resolutions regarding the printing, binding, and distribution of public documents, including the annual reports of executive agencies, bureaus, and commissions; messages of the President; special scientific studies and reports; public health reports and statements; historical documentary publications such as the "Territorial Papers of the United States"; and hearings of congressional committees. The Committee on Printing acted as a standing committee of the House until 1947 when it was incorporated into the House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Printing document various subjects (76A-F34.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Printing include various subjects (76A-H21.1).

Arrangement note

Committees

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Public Lands 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Public Lands was established in 1805 and given jurisdiction over matters relating to the lands of the United States. Jurisdiction of the committee included the sale and settlement of public lands, land claims, minerals and waters on public lands, irrigation, forest reserves and game living in them, national parks, conservation, land grants, foreign ownership of land, and administration of the lands of the public domain. The establishment of a land court and to provide for the judicial investigation and settlement of private land claims in certain states and territories was also part of the committee's jurisdiction. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the committees on Indian Affairs; Territories, Mines and Mining; Irrigation and Reclamation; and Insular Affairs were abolished and their jurisdictions were combined with those of the Committee on Public Lands. On February 2, 1951, the name of the committee was changed to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to more accurately reflect the full scope of its jurisdiction.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Lands include various subjects (76A–F35.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Lands document the Cascade Mountain Range (76A–H22.1); county lands owned by the United States (76A–H22.2); Federal Oil and Gas Leasing Act (76A–H22.3); King’s Canyon National Park (76A–H22.4); and various subjects (76A–H2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Revision of the Laws 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Revision of Laws was established in 1868 after having been a select committee for several years and replaced the old Committee on Revisal and Unfinished Business (1795-1868). Jurisdiction of the committee included the revision and codification of the statutes of the United States. The committee reported bills providing for the revision and codification of the general and permanent laws of the United States. Occasionally, bills concerning changes in law rather than revision and codification were referred to the committee, such as the transfer of certain bureaus from one executive department to another.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Revision of the Laws include various subjects (76A–F36.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committees

Committee on Rivers and Harbors 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Rivers and Harbors was authorized early in the 48th Congress in December 1883. The committee was given jurisdiction over subjects relating to the improvements of rivers and harbors and had the responsibility of reporting the river and harbor bill, which previously had been handled by the Committee on Commerce. The committee's jurisdiction changed over time. When the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River was terminated in 1911, its responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors. The subject of flood control was removed from the committee's authority in 1916 and assigned to the new Committee on Flood Control. After 1920 the committee could no longer report appropriation bills for rivers and harbors and its legislative authority was limited to reporting only bills that authorized improvements to rivers and harbors. These shifts in authority still left many subjects within the jurisdiction of the committee. These included improvement of watersheds and dams thereon, construction of locks on navigable streams, construction and maintenance of equipment for river improvements, erosion of banks on navigable streams, pollution of navigable waters, intrastate inland waterways, and navigation of international boundary streams. The committee was terminated early in the 80th Congress on January 3, 1947. Its successor was the Committee on Public Works.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers on Committee on Rivers and Harbors include various subjects (76A–F37.1) and unbound minutes (76A–F37.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committees

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors document stream pollution (76A–H23.1); and various subjects (76A–H23.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Roads 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Roads was created in 1913 with jurisdiction over matters relating "to the construction or maintenance of roads, other than appropriations therefore." The statement outlining the committee's jurisdiction contained the proviso that measures for specific roads could not be included in bills for general legislation, nor could any bill relating to a specific road "embrace a provision in relation to any other specific road." During the first decade of its existence, the committee reported bills authorizing aid to the States in the construction of rural post roads, and with the 1921 Federal Highway Act in the construction and maintenance of highways, forest roads, trails, and rural post roads. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the committee was disbanded and its jurisdiction included in those of the new Committee on Public Works.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on Roads document various subjects (76A–F38.1).

Committees

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Roads document the acquisition of forest lands (76A-H24.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Territories 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on the Territories was established in 1825 to examine the legislative, civil, and criminal proceedings of the territories, and to devise and report to the House opinions necessary to secure the rights and privileges of residents and non-residents. The committee also reported legislation concerning the structure, status, and power of the territorial governments; statehood; powers of municipalities; boundary disputes; and on matters relating to public lands and homesteading, railroads, public works, public buildings, highways, taxation, bond issues, education, Indians, prohibition, and wildlife. The jurisdiction of the committee was later absorbed by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories document Alaska (76A–F39.1); Hawaii (76A–F39.2); and various subjects (76A–F39.3).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Territories document Alaska (76A–H25.1); and Hawaii (76A–H25.2).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on War Claims 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on War Claims was created in 1873 to replace the Committee on Revolutionary Claims (1825-1873). Jurisdiction of the committee was defined to include claims arising from Indian hostilities and included claims for property seized for use by the U.S. Army and Navy from citizens in the Southern States who remained loyal to the Union during the Civil War. Jurisdiction was expanded to include "claims arising from any war in which the United States has been engaged." The records include those of the Southern Claims Commission. Although most of the work of the committee involved reporting private legislation for the settlement of claims of individuals and corporations, on occasion it reported on the war claims of states and territories against the United States, as well as general legislation that provided for the adjudication of certain classes of claims.

Committees

This committee, like the Claims Committee, had authority to report bills making appropriations for the payment of the obligations within its jurisdiction. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 the committee was abolished and its jurisdiction transferred to the Judiciary Committee and the executive agencies.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee on War Claims document various subjects (76A–F40.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Ways and Means 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Committee on Ways and Means is the oldest standing committee in Congress. In 1795 another Select Committee on Ways and Means was formed, and was regularly reappointed in each session until it was defined as a standing committee in 1802. The jurisdiction of the committee includes customs revenue, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery; reciprocal trade agreements; revenue measures generally; revenue measures relating to insular possessions; bonded debt of the United States, subject to the last sentence of clause 4(f); deposit of public monies; transportation of dutiable goods; tax exempt foundations and charitable trusts; and national social security (except health care and facilities programs that are supported from general revenues as opposed to payroll deductions and except work incentive programs).

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means include correspondence (76A–F41.1), arranged alphabetically by correspondent; executive communications (76A–F41.2), arranged numerically; hearings (76A–F41.3); and various subjects (76A–F41.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means included an advertisement of alcoholic beverages by press and radio (76A–H26.1); chain stores (76A–H26.2); commodity taxation and processing taxes (76A–H26.3); community welfare and relief (76A–H26.4); foreign trade (76A–H26.5); general welfare legislation, H.R. 2 (76A–H26.6); general welfare legislation, H.R. 11 (76A–H26.7); general welfare legislation, H.R. 5620 (76A–H26.8); general welfare legislation, H.R. 8264 (76A–H26.9); list of petitions referred to the committee (76A–H26.10); national prayers and repentance (76A–H26.11); neutrality (76A–H26.12); social security legislation (76A–H26.13); taxation (76A–H26.14); Works Progress Administration (76A–H26.15); world crisis (76A–H26.16); and various subjects (76A–H26.17).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee of the Whole House 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Committees

The Committee of the Whole consists of the entire membership of the House and stems from a practice in the House of Commons, when the Speaker of the House of Commons was regarded as an agent of the King. The procedure allows the Speaker to remove himself/herself from the chairmanship in order for the body to elect its own chairman and debate matters without the normal restrictions of a House of Commons session.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Committee of the Whole House document various subjects (76A–F42.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Before 1924, the Committees on Pensions and on Invalid Pensions had dealt with the pension problems of individual veterans, and the Ways and Means Committee had been responsible for writing the majority of the legislation relating to veterans. All three of the committees continued to exist after the World War Veterans' Legislation Committee was created. In 1947 the World War Veterans Legislation Committee was renamed Veterans' Affairs, and its jurisdiction expanded to include the subjects that had been referred to the committees on Pensions and Invalid Pensions which were abolished under the reorganization of that year.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

Committees

The committee papers of the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation document various subjects (76A–F43.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on World War Veterans' Legislation include pensions (76A–H27.1); veterans' hospitals and homes (76A–H27.2); widows and children of deceased World War veterans (76A–H27.3); and various subjects (76A–H27.4).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Select Committee on Conservation of Wildlife Resources 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

On January 29, 1934, the House created the Select Committee on Conservation of Wildlife Resources, consisting of 15 members, including the chairmen of the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries, as well as the two House Members on the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission. The committee monitored, studied, and investigated the wildlife conservation activities of a number of federal agencies, including the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and other agencies tangentially involved in wildlife conservation.

Committees

Committee Papers 1939-1941**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Conservation of Wildlife Resources include printed copies of House and Senate bills, accompanied by related correspondence with Members of Congress, federal and state agencies, private groups, and individual citizens. These touch upon such topics as wildlife and migratory bird refuges, construction of certain public works, conservation of fishery resources, and the acquisition of additional land for national parks. Also included is correspondence on more general subjects, memorandums, published materials relating to conservation, and drafts and copies of committee reports. Records relating to the committee hearings include correspondence with federal and state agencies in preparation for the hearings, correspondence with witnesses after the hearings, lists of witnesses and the topics to be discussed during the hearings, and the published transcripts of committee hearings. There are committee minutes; copies of speeches by A. Willis Robertson, chairman of the committee; clippings from the "Congressional Record"; and correspondence from citizens requesting copies of the published hearings and reports. A separate finding aid for the Select Committee's records is available.

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Controlled Access Headings**Personal Name(s)**

- Robertson, Absalom Willis, 1887-1971

Select Committee on Government Organization 1939-1941**Biographical/Historical note**

Committees

On January 12, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent a message to Congress in which he outlined the need for a reorganization of the administrative management of the executive branch and transmitted the report of the Committee on Administrative Management, which he had appointed to examine the problem and propose changes. Roosevelt noted that implementation of the committee's five-point program would require congressional action. Accordingly, on January 14, 1937, the House established the Select Committee on Government Organization to consider and report on the President's message and on all legislative proposals regarding governmental reorganization and related subjects. The committee continued until January 3, 1941.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee on Government Organization document various subjects (76A–F44.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Select Committee on Government Organization document the reorganization of the Government (76A–H28.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committees

Select Committee to Investigate National Defense Migration 1939-1941**Biographical/Historical note**

On March 31, 1941, the House passed a resolution, continuing the Select Committee to Investigate Interstate Migration of Destitute Citizens under the new title of Select Committee Investigating National Defense Migration to study the ramifications of the defense-oriented migration. The committee conducted public hearings around the country from June 1941 to September 1942, including hearings on the West Coast in February and March 1942 to consider the problems inherent in the proposed relocation of enemy aliens and Japanese-Americans. The committee issued eight reports relating to national defense migration and the evacuation effort, culminating with the final report on January 8, 1943 (H. Rept. 3, 78th Cong., 1st sess., Serial 10760).

Committee Papers 1939-1941**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee to Investigate National Defense Migration include general correspondence; monographs on the interstate migration of destitute citizens; hearings on evacuation of enemy aliens from the Pacific Coast; bills of the select committee; and records related to the study of agricultural labor supply problems. There are also several hearing files for hearings held in Washington, D.C.; New York, N.Y.; Montgomery and Huntsville, Ala.; Chicago, Ill.; Lincoln, Hastings, and Omaha, Nebr.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; San Francisco, Calif.; Los Angeles, Calif.; San Diego, Calif.; Hartford, Conn.; Trenton, N.J.; Baltimore, Md.; Detroit, Mich.; and St. Louis, Mo. Additional committee transcripts are included, committee reports, reading files, newspaper clippings, and the committee's mailing list. A separate finding aid for the Select Committee's records is available.

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committees

Select Committee to Investigate the National Labor Relations Board 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The National Labor Relations Act, enacted on July 5, 1935, established the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) with authority to conduct plant elections and issue restraining orders against unfair practices. In 1939, criticisms of the Board were voiced at congressional hearings held before the House Committee on Labor and the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. Industrialists, who from the beginning had resisted the NLRB, were pressing for repeal; in addition, certain union leaders took issue with some of the actions of the Board and accused it of maladministration. These criticisms led to the establishment of the Special Committee to Investigate the National Labor Relations Board on July 20, 1939.

Committee Papers 1939-1941

Scope and Contents note

The committee papers of the Select Committee to Investigate the National Labor Relations Board document various subjects (76A–F45.1).

Arrangement note

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Special Committee on Un-American Activities (The Dies Committee) 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities (The Dies Committee) was created on May 26, 1938, with the approval of House Resolution 282. The purpose of the committee was to investigate un-American activities in the United States, domestic diffusion of such propaganda, and all other questions relating thereto.

Originals of Printed House Documents

Scope and Contents note

There is a separate finding for the records of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities (The Dies Committee).

Special Joint Congressional Committee to Investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority 1939-1941

Biographical/Historical note

Public Resolution No. 83 (75th Cong., ch.61, 3rd sess., S. J. Res. 277), approved April 4, 1938, created a special joint congressional committee "to make a full and complete investigation" of the Tennessee Valley Authority for the purpose of "obtaining information as a basis for legislation." The committee was specifically directed to investigate the nature of the administration of the TVA Act by the Board of Directors and its subordinates; the conduct of the Board members themselves, particularly "any interference or handicaps placed in the way of the prompt, efficient, and economical administration of [TVA's] functions by internal dissension"; phases of alleged maladministration of TVA such as partiality to large corporations, interference with the Comptroller General's audits of the Authority, dissipation of funds through extravagance, mismanagement, and illegal conduct; and activities of private power companies opposed to TVA and the results of such opposition. The committee was also directed to investigate the possibility of the production of sodium nitrate at a lower price than that at which it was then being bought.

Scope and Contents note

A separate finding aid for the Special Joint Congressional Committee to Investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority records is available.

Originals of Printed House Documents 1939-1941 13.0 Cubic feet (63 volumes)**Scope and Contents note**

Original House documents are from the 1st session (76A-G1), 2d session (76A-G2), and 3d session (76A-G3).

Election Records

Arrangement note

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

Election Records 1939-1941 1.0 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

Election records include the credentials of Representatives and Delegates (76A–J1).

Arrangement note

The records are arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

Other Records 1939-1941 1.0 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

Other records document the ratification of the first 10 amendments of the Constitution of the United States by Connecticut and Georgia (76A–K1), arranged by State; motions to discharge committees from consideration of bills and resolutions (76A–K2), arranged chronologically; various papers (76A–K3), arranged by subject; and a volume of roll calls (76A–K4), arranged chronologically.

Records of Impeachment Proceedings 1939-1941

Impeachment of Frances Perkins, James L. Houghteling, and Gerard D. Reilly 1939-1941 0.75 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

Records of the Clerk

The papers pertain to impeachment proceedings against Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor; James L. Houghteling, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization; and Gerard D. Reilly, Solicitor of the Department of Labor (76B–A1).

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Houghteling, James L., 1883-1962
- Perkins, Frances, 1880-1965
- Reilly, Gerard D. (Gerard Denis), 1906-1995

Records of the Clerk 1939-1941

Record Books 1939-1941 3.0 Cubic feet (12 volumes)

Scope and Contents note

The record books include a House bill book (76C–A1); House resolution book—joint, concurrent and simple—together with Senate joint and concurrent resolutions (76C–A2); Senate bill book (76C–A3); individual ledger (76C–A4); register of papers sent to the Senate (76C–A5); register of papers received from the Senate (76C–A6); register of committee reports, messages from the President, and executive communications (76C–A7); and petition book (76C–A8).

Other Records 1939-1941 0.08 Cubic feet

Scope and Contents note

Other Records

Other records include monthly reports of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation submitted to the Clerk of the House pursuant to statutory requirement (76C–B1), arranged chronologically; and various papers (76C–B2), arranged by subject.